

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Medical Assistance Services

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July 8, 2011

Dear Interested Party:

Item 297, BBBBB of the 2011 Appropriations Act requires the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) to:

... work to improve and/or develop Medicaid waivers for individuals with intellectual disabilities and developmental disabilities that will increase efficiency and cost effectiveness, enable more individuals to be served, strengthen the delivery of person-centered supports, enable individuals with high medical needs and/or high behavioral support needs to remain in the community setting of their choice, and provide viable community alternatives to institutional placement.

The Act also requires DMAS and DBHDS to examine the current ID, Day Support, and DD waiver programs and identify any improvements to these waivers. The evaluation of Virginia's waiver programs must be completed in consultation with stakeholders and submit a report to the General Assembly on our findings by October 1, 2011.

DMAS and DBHDS will host a meeting to obtain stakeholder input on Monday, July 25th from 9 am to 1 pm. The meeting will be held in conference room 7A & 7B (7th floor) at the Department of Medical Assistance Services, 600 East Broad Street, in Richmond.

We invite you to participate in this important dialogue about Virginia's waiver programs serving individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The meeting is open to the public and will be a discussion designed to obtain feedback from stakeholders.

In order to ensure we have enough seating for the meeting, please register online at http://item297.eventbrite.com/ by Friday, July 22nd.

Thank you in advance for your participation in this process. Should you have any questions about this meeting please contact Lee Price at lee.price@dbhds.virginia.gov or Helen Leonard at helen.leonard@dmas.virginia.gov for additional information.

Sincerely,

Gregg Pane, MD Director, DMAS James W. Stewart, III Commissioner, DBHDS